

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

Life is full of various occurrences which enable a human being to undergo many kinds of experiences. These experiences may be traumatic, sad, frightful, pleasant, funny, etc. The experiences which are pleasant and funny will be better for him or her than those are sad, traumatic, or frightful. They will often cause inferiority feelings. Another factor causing inferiority feeling is failure experience. It can be a failure in study, work, marriage or the other things.

Basically, all experiences are so interested to be known by others and people like to share their experiences. There are many ways used by people in sharing their experience such as by telling it to someone through face to face talk, arranging it into stories which can be shown through drama and film, or writing it into songs, poems, novels, short stories, etc. Among them, a novel is a book-length story in prose, whose author tries to create the sense that, while we read, we experience actual life (Kennedy, 1983:180).

There are many novel writers in the world from different countries. One of them is Saul Bellow, an American writer who has written many stories. *Herzog* is his famous novel published in 1964. It is a novel telling about the life of its major character, Herzog, as a man whose life cannot be

separated from his past time. The failure of his father as a Jew who wants to be a successful man in America and the suffering of his parents motivate him to show his existence and respect through his achievements both scholarly and sexually. He becomes an important professor and has affairs with women. Those are his prides in his life.

Herzog's recklessness about women causes him to fail twice in his marriage. He divorces Daisy, his first wife because he has affair with Madeleine and is urged by her. He leaves Daisy and his son, Marco, to marry Madeleine. As soon as Madeleine becomes pregnant Herzog buys a big old house in Ludeyville and they live in the house. In the place, they have good relationship with the Gersbachs, a family of Valentine and Phoebe Gersbach.

Herzog is fond of Madeleine and has done everything for her happiness. He works to repair the house and to get much money. After living a year in Ludeyville Madeleine decides to finish her graduate studies in Slavonic language. Thus, Herzog writes to Chicago about jobs. He also finds a position for Valentine Gersbach because Madeleine asks him to do that. She wants the Gersbachs move to Chicago too.

After about a year of their new Chicago life, Madeleine wants a divorce. She tells him that she never loves him and never will love him, either. The divorce is very painful for Herzog because he still loves her and cannot bear to leave his little daughter. Besides, he is not ready to accept the divorce because six week before sending him away, Madeleine has had him lease a house near the Midway at two hundred a month. Moreover a week before she

demands a divorce, she has his things cleaned and pressed. But on the day he leaves the house, she flings them all into a carton which she then dumps down to the cellar stairs. The second divorce breaks him up. Furthermore, he suffers mental depression after knowing Madeleine leaves him for his best friend, Valentine Gersbach. They have been lovers while she and Herzog are still married.

Herzog's suffering is incessantly. Madeleine not only betrays him but also spreads the rumor that his sanity has collapsed. The fact that everyone who is close to the Herzogs is on her side leads him to live neurotically. Thus, he intends to improve his life by overcoming his problems in order to regain his normal life. It means that he desires to get back his happiness, confident, and stability. In order to make his desire comes true Herzog struggles to get better mental quality over his neurotic life.

Saul Bellow clearly describes Herzog's struggle to get better mental quality. Herzog does some efforts to reach mental betterment. As a result, he gets some peace and becomes a wise and mature person. He has stable psychological and stops his recklessness about women.

Knowing the entire story of Saul Bellow's novel entitled *Herzog*, the writer is interested in analyzing the novel based on individual psychological approach. She uses the approach because she finds a relation between the story of the novel and the theory of individual psychology. Both the story of the novel and the theory talk about the struggle to get superiority and achieve life goal.

B. Previous Study

In order to make this research paper good and valid the writer takes a previous study to support her study. A previous researcher who has studied Saul Bellow's novel entitled *Herzog* is Aris Styowati, a student of Sebelas Maret University. She used existential approach in analyzing the novel by writing her research paper entitled *Kesadaran Diri Pada Herzog Tokoh Utama Dalam Novel Herzog Karya Saul Bellow*.

After browsing in many libraries of universities such as Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta, Sanata Dharma University, Sebelas Maret University, Ahmad Dahlan University, and UNY, the writer finds that Aris Styowati is the only previous researcher who has analyzed *Herzog*. Thus, she uses different approach in analyzing the novel, that is, individual psychology.

C. Problem Statement

The problem of the study is: how does Herzog's struggles for better mental quality influence his personality?

D. Limitation of the Study

This study does not analyze the personality development of all characters, but only focuses on a major character's named Herzog.

E. Objective of the Study

The objectives of the study are as follows:

1. To analyze structural elements of the novel.
2. To analyze the novel by using individual psychological approach.

F. Benefit of the Study

The benefits of the study are as follows:

1. Theoretical benefit is to improve the knowledge in studying literature.
2. Practical benefit is to fulfill requirements in getting Bachelor Degree of Education in English Department.

G. Research Method**1. Type of Research**

The type of the study is qualitative. Moleong (1989:3) affirms that qualitative research is research, which results in the descriptive data in the forms of written or oral word from observed people or behavior.

2. Object of Research

The object of the study is Saul Bellow's *Herzog*, giving focus on one of the major characters, namely Herzog.

3. Data Source

- a. Primary data source is Saul Bellow's novel entitled *Herzog*.
- b. Secondary data source includes the books which are relevant to the study.

4. Method of Data Collection

The method of data collection is library research by collecting and selecting both primary and secondary data source. In collecting and selecting the data, the writer reads the whole materials and notes the important materials.

5. Technique of Data Analysis

The technique of data analysis is descriptive by describing the structural elements and the analysis of the major character in the novel relates with individual psychology analysis.

H. Paper Organization

This research paper is divided into five chapters. Chapter I is Introduction consisting of background of the study, previous study, problem statement, limitation of the study, objective of the study, benefit of the study, a research method, and paper organization. Chapter II is underlying theory involving Alfred Adler's individual psychology. Chapter III is structural analysis. Chapter IV is individual psychological analysis and Chapter V is conclusion and suggestion.